

**Testimony before Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee
Support With Amendment
SB 440 – Commission to Study the Health Care Workforce Crisis in Maryland – Establishment
February 10, 2022**

Maryland’s Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW–MD), which represents professional social workers across the state, supports with amendment Senate Bill 440.

The social work profession is currently experiencing extreme provider shortages. These shortages effect our providers throughout our state, including in our hospitalists, nursing homes, schools and community behavioral health centers. We would like to request that this bill be modified to make clear this it is focusing on providers in a variety of different settings, including our school-based providers.

Our state is in dire need for an increased health care workforce and this bill is an important first step. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mary Beth DeMartino, LCSW-C Executive Director, NASW MD (mdemartino.naswmd@socialworkers.org).